
President Obama is making his first efforts to act on his election promises. Today he meets his economic team; he is also promising to get together with his military advisers soon to make a plan to pull troops out of Iraq. Justin Webb reports:

Last July, then candidate Obama made a promise about Iraq. 'On my first day in office', he said, 'I will bring the Joint Chiefs of Staff in and I will give them a new mission, and that is to end the war **responsibly** and **deliberately**, but **decisively**'. Since then something else has happened of course - the world economy has **collapsed**, and politically it's now more important for him **to be seen to be acting on** the economy than on Iraq.

Nonetheless, both subjects will **figure in** his discussions today. This administration is promising action **across the board**, so a number of executive orders are likely to come soon. Already last night the White House - in a memo signed by the new Chief of Staff - ordered all the last-minute regulations signed by President Bush **to be put on hold**.

But it is the economy that will **dominate** the early days of this administration - and on which Mr Obama knows **he will be judged**.

Justin Webb, BBC News, Washington

Vocabulary and definitions

responsibly	while being in control and having good judgement, enabling/allowing you to take correct actions
deliberately	with a clear intent, purposefully
decisively	without hesitation/dithering
collapsed	unexpectedly and seriously failed
to be seen to be acting on	that people see him taking measures to improve
figure in	the topics of
across the board	in all areas of political, economic and social life
to be put on hold	to stop being introduced or enforced
dominate	be the main focus of his attention in
he will be judged	people will form their opinions about him

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